REMARKS

A.   Status of the Application

* Claims 1 to 29 are pending in the application, of which claims 1, 12 and 23 are
  independent claims.

* Claims 1 and 12 are amended.

Accordingly, entry of the amendments is respectfully requested. Applicants have
amended the claims to recite particular embodiments that Applicants, in their business
judgment, have determined to be commercially desirable at this time. The claim
amendments have not been submitted for any reasons relating to patentability.

B.   Rejected Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §103

On page 2, the Office Action rejected claims 1 to 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as
being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,134,535 (Belzberg) in view of U.S Patent No.
5,297,031 (Gutterman). However, the Office Action fails to establish a *prima facie* case of
obviousness in any of the claims.

Independent claims 1 and 12

Independent claim 1 describes, *inter alia*, a processor that is configured to "*direct
the display device to display one of the plurality of trading quadrants **in response to the
participant pressing one of the plurality of order keys**"* (emphasis added). Independent
claim 12 describes, *inter alia*, a processor that "***in response to a trader pressing the key
that corresponds to the benchmark instrument**... [is] configured to direct the display
device to select the at least one trading quadrant"* (emphasis added).

The cited portions of the Belzberg and Gutterman reference fail to disclose *"display[ing] one of the plurality of trading quadrants"* and *"select[ing] the at least one trading quadrant"*, in response, respectively, to a participant *"pressing one of the plurality of order keys"* and a trader *"pressing the key that corresponds to the benchmark instrument"*, as described in Applicant's claims 1 and 12.

As conceded by the Office Action, the Belzberg reference fails to teach displaying financial instruments in different trading quadrants, much less, the pressing of a key to display or select a trading quadrant. Specifically, the Office Action states on page 2 that

> Belzberg does not specifically teach displaying numerous financial instruments in different trading quadrants, where each quadrant contains information relating to each specific financial instrument, and Belzberg also does not teach displaying on of the quadrants on the display in response to a user selecting that quadrant.

Neither does the Gutterman reference supply the deficiencies. The cited portion of Gutterman merely describes:

> The deck pane **135** can be selectively partitionable so that a plurality of a decks can be simultaneously displayed, as illustrated in **FIG. 2c**, The deck pane **135** is shown partitioned into four deck areas **135-1**, **133-2**, **135-3**, and **135-4**, each corresponding to a different commodity or instrument traded by the broker.

Nowhere do the cited portions of Gutterman describe *"pressing one of the plurality of order keys"* and *"pressing the key that corresponds to the benchmark instrument,"* as in Applicant's claims 1 and 12, respectively. Therefore, the Office Action fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for independent claims 1 and 12. For at least the above cited reasons, claims 1 and 12 (and the claims that depend there from) are allowable.

Independent claim 23

Independent claim 23 describes, *inter alia*, "*receiving inputs through **a single key that is substituted for the plurality of keys** in order to implement one of the specific functions previously associated with one of the plurality of keys, the single key occupying substantially the same physical space on the keyboard previously occupied by the plurality of keys.*"

The Office Action is completely silent with regards to this limitation. Neither do the cited portions of Belzberg or Gutterman describe "***a single key that is substituted for the plurality of keys** in order to implement one of the specific functions previously associated with one of the plurality of keys,*" as in Applicant's claim 23.

Therefore, the Office Action fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for independent claim 23. For at least the above cited reasons, claim 23 (and the claims that depend there from) are allowable.

C.   General Comments on Dependent Claims

Each dependent claim is patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claim on which it depends. Thus, Applicants believe that it is unnecessary at this time to argue the allowability of each dependent claim individually. However, Applicants do not necessarily concur with the interpretation of the dependent claims as set forth in the Office Action, nor do Applicants concur that the basis for the rejection of any of the dependent claims is proper. Therefore, Applicants reserve the right to specifically address the patentability of the dependent claims in the future, if deemed necessary.

D.   Conclusion

In general, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed.

Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as a concession of any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney can be reached at the address shown below. All telephone calls should be directed to the undersigned at (857) 413-2056.

Respectfully submitted,

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